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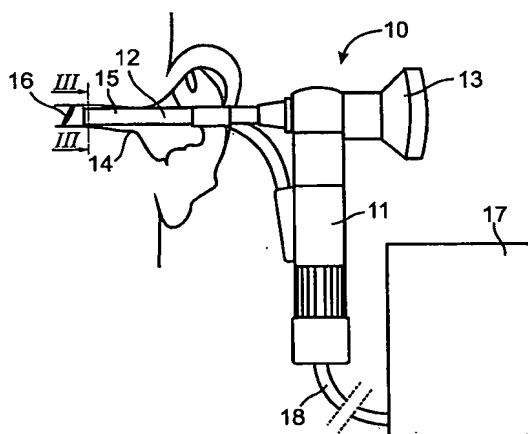
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(54) Title: **DEVICE FOR MEASURING PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF THE TYMPANIC MEMBRANE**



(57) Abstract: Device for measuring physical properties of the tympanic membrane (TM), comprising an elongated probe (12) with a distal end (15) for inspection of the ear, wherein a plurality of optical fibres is arranged in said elongated probe. The plurality of fibres includes either a first set of fibres (21) for conveying light from a light source to said distal end of said probe and a second set of fibres (22) for conveying light reflected from the tympanic membrane in front of said distal end to a first detector means (23) or a set of fibres both for conveying light from a light source to said distal end of said probe and for conveying light reflected from the tympanic membrane in front of said distal end to a first detector means (23). Said first detector means (23) is designed for measuring the intensity of light reflected from the tympanic membrane. Method for measuring physical properties of the tympanic membrane (TM), including the following steps: a) illuminating the tympanic membrane with light from a light source, b) detecting light reflected from the tympanic membrane, and c) analysing the intensity at selected wavelengths or a spectrum of wavelengths.